



Department  
for Education

**Five  
to Twelve**

# Continue being part of Five To Twelve

Information for parents and carers



# What is the study about?

Five to Twelve is a national study of over 8,000 children and their families attending primary school in the 2020s. It is part of an exciting series of studies about different stages of childhood, from birth to young adulthood. These studies are funded by the Department for Education (DfE).

By following children and their mothers, fathers and other parental carers over time, the study aims to understand how children's early years, school, home life and relationships shape their education and development. We are contacting families every year throughout primary school.

**This year we would also like to hear directly from your child.**

# Thank you for your help so far!

Thank you for your contribution to Five to Twelve so far. You are part of a vital project which is already helping us to understand how to give children the best start in life. We can only run this study with the participation of families like yours.

Your answers are already helping decision makers to better understand primary education.

## So far we have heard from...



**12,500+ parents**



**5000+ teachers**



**...now it's time for the children's voices!**

# What does taking part involve?

We are inviting you as the parent to take part in a short 10-minute online questionnaire about your household, your health and wellbeing, and your child's school life.

**New for year 3! This year we are also inviting your child to take part in their own questionnaire, with your permission.** You need to complete your own questionnaire first to provide consent for your child to take part. If your child does not want to or can't take part we would still like to hear from you. Your answers as the parent are valuable.

**The questionnaire for your child is really important!** We will ask them about their hobbies, school, friends, feelings and technology. We hope your child will enjoy completing their survey. The questions are easy to understand, and we hope that many children will be able to answer by themselves. We understand that some children may need

adult support to participate. If your child needs help, please do support them. Inside this envelope is a separate letter for your child with information on how they can take part.

## Who is carrying out the study?

This study is being carried out by the National Centre for Social Research, the largest independent social research organisation in Britain, in collaboration with the National Children's Bureau (NCB) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER).



# Frequently Asked Questions

## How was I chosen for this study?

Your child was selected at random from the Department for Education's National Pupil Database to take part in the study. You have taken part in the first and/or second year of the study. We are getting back in touch now that your child is another year older.

## Do I have to take part?

Taking part is completely voluntary, but we really hope you'll be able to help. You can change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time. You do not have to provide a reason.

## Who has approved this research?

The study has been reviewed by the Department for Education and an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee, to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. This study has been given ethical approval by the NatCen Research Ethics Committee (Reference no. P19276).

## What will happen to the information I give?

All information you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence, in accordance with UK data protection legislation. Taking part in Five to Twelve will not impact your child maintenance payments or any state benefits you receive. The data is collected and used for research purposes only. The answers you provide to the study will be anonymised (this means that all identifying information is removed). The Department for Education will securely provide anonymised data to researchers conducting legitimate research on children's education and wellbeing. You can read the study's Privacy Notice here [fivetotwelve.org.uk/privacy-notice](https://fivetotwelve.org.uk/privacy-notice). If you'd like more information, you can visit our website at [fivetotwelve.org.uk](https://fivetotwelve.org.uk). You can contact us at [FiveToTwelve@natcen.ac.uk](mailto:FiveToTwelve@natcen.ac.uk) or call us on Freephone **0800 652 4568**.